

## Message Text

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41

ACTION PM-07

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AF-10 SS-20 INR-11 DRC-01 RSC-01 L-03

NEA-14 /068 W

----- 022759

P 221403Z AUG 74

FM AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8802

C O N F I D E N T I A L NAIROBI 7158

STADIS////////////////////////////////////

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MPOL, US, KE

SUBJ: MIDEASTFOR TURNOVER

REFS: (A) COMIDEASTFOR 170630Z JUL 74 (NOTAL)

(B) NAIROBI 6944

(C) COMIDEASTFOR 210631Z AUG 74

1. REF (A) SOLICITED EMBASSY VIEWS ON SCHEDULING MIDEASTFOR FOUR-SHIP TURNOVER AT MOMBASA NOV 4-11, POINTING OUT THIS MIGHT COINCIDE WITH VISIT TO SAME PORT OF TEN-SHIP ROYAL NAVY SQUADRON. IN REF (B) EMBASSY SUGGESTED MIDEASTFOR TURNOVER BE RESCHEDULED IN VIEW LOGISTIC STRAIN RN VISIT WOULD PLACE ON PORT. REF (C) CITED EXTREME DIFFICULTIES IN RESCHEDULING TURNOVER AS INCOMING MIDEASTFOR SHIPS ARE TO PARTICIPATE IN CENTO AND JOINT US/RN EXERCISES.

2. EMBASSY APPRECIATES COMIDEASTFOR'S POSITION, BUT BEFORE SEEKING GOK CLEARANCE IT WISHES TO ALERT DEPARTMENT TO PROBLEMS THAT MAY FLOW FROM MIDEASTFOR TURNOVER COINCIDING WITH PRESENCE IN MOMBASA OF LARGE RN SQUADRON. BRITISH HIGH COMMISSION HAS INDICATED TO US ITS CONCERN RE HIGH PROFILE PRESENTED BY ENTIRE RN SQUADRON AND SAID IT HAS THUS FAR SOUGHT GOK CLEARANCE FOR ONLY ONE CRUISER, ONE FRIGATE, ONE ROYAL FLEET AUXILIARY AND ONE NUCLEAR-POWERED SUBMARINE, BUT POSSIBILITY REMAINS THAT LONDON WILL DECIDE REST OF SQUADROM MUST BE ADDED TO REQUEST. EVEN IN  
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ABSENCE OF ENTIRE RN SQUADRON, PRESENCE OF NUCLEAR-POWERED SUB,

IF APPROVED BY GOK AND SURFACED IN PRESS, COULD BECOME HIGHLY  
CONTROVERSIAL, PARTICULARLY IF NEIGHBORING SOMALIA AND  
TANZANIA TAKE OPPORTUNITY TO CRITICIZE KENYA. LIKELIHOOD OF SUCH  
CRITICISM WOULD BE INCREASED BY CONCURRENT PRESENCE OF MIDEASTFOR  
SHIPS, ASSUMING GOK WILLING OVERLOOK POLITICAL AND LOGISTIC  
PROBLEMS AND APPROVE TURNOVER. CONTROVERSY, SHOULD IT DEVELOP,  
MIGHT WELL COOL GOK RECEPTIVITY TOWARD FUTURE USN SHIP VISITS.

3. IN VIEW ABOVE, EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIATE DEPARTMENT'S  
INSTRUCTIONS BEFORE SEEKING GOK CLEARANCE FOR TURNOVER. PLEASE  
ADVISE SOONEST.  
MARSHALL

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NNN

## Message Attributes

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